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Assistant Director OCD

5 January 1950

Assistant Director ONE

Munitions Board Letter on "Vital Foreign Resources and Facilities Available to Support a United States Industrial Mobilization", MBXMA 461

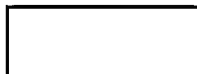
The two volumes referred to in the Munitions Board memorandum were received in CIA 23 June and 5 July respectively, presumably for our information only. It was not understood at that time that we were specifically requested to comment on them.

There is clearly a need for the organization of basic information on the situation throughout the world with respect to strategic commodities critical from the point of view of United States requirements. The subject study covers some of these important commodities but is not complete and undoubtedly can be improved and brought up to date by further research. It is understood that the National Security Resources Board is also engaged in similar studies of selected vital commodities.

These volumes contain very useful material on the subject to which they are addressed. A comprehensive review of these strategic commodities would involve research comparable to that of the original study. If a review of these volumes is being undertaken I shall be glad to make our specialists who are dealing with similar problems available for consultation with members of the staff of the Munitions Board who may be engaged in this study and to assist in every way possible in this important work.

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